

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HONORING RICH KOSSUTH

#### HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2011*

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge Mr. Rich Kossuth, this year's Sunday Dispatch 2010 Person of the Year.

Rich is a Greater Pittston area resident. A co-owner of Rock Street Music, the drummer in Pittston's local band Flaxy Morgan, and part of the rock duo CNR, Rich has grown up working in Pittston's music scene. He started out as an employee of local music businesses and eventually formed Rock Street Music with his mother and brothers. Through these affiliations, Rich has unselfishly donated his time and efforts to various facets of our community.

Mr. Kossuth founded 12/24, a Christmas holiday seasonal band dedicated to raising funds for autism research. In 2010, he volunteered his talents, time, and equipment to over 40 benefits for causes ranging from supporting local recreational groups to helping local heroes in need of assistance in their fights against cancer. Rich has dedicated himself to improving the lives of our children, making appearances as Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny at local events, as well as serving as an assistant scout manager.

Mr. Kossuth never asks for anything in return. In fact, when Rich was informed he'd be receiving the Person of the Year Award, he promptly named others he felt deserving of recognition before finally graciously accepting the acknowledgement of all he has done to serve the Greater Pittston area.

Mr. Speaker, Rich Kossuth is a compassionate, generous humanitarian who truly cares about our community and his fellow citizens. His kindness has touched the lives of countless people. We could never thank Mr. Kossuth enough for the service he provides and the spirit he instills in the Greater Pittston area. He is truly an inspiring individual. Mr. Speaker, today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Kossuth and recognizing his being named the Sunday Dispatch's 2010 Person of the Year.

### HONORING THE HONOREES OF THE MID-MAINE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AWARDS

#### HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2011*

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Honorees of the 2011 Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Dinner. The Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce serves the people and business community of the greater Waterville area, working with the business community to strengthen

economic opportunity throughout the region and the state.

Each year, the Mid-Maine Chamber recognizes some of the outstanding businesses and individuals that make Maine "the way life should be" for all Mainers and Maine businesses. These individuals and businesses are committed to strengthening opportunity and prosperity in Maine.

This year's award recipients include Robert Martin, recipient of the Distinguished Community Service Award; Fortin's Home Furniture, Business of the Year; Bill Mitchell of GHM Insurance, Business Person of the Year; Barbara Haynes, recipient of the Elias A. Joseph award; David Holden of Bangor Savings Bank, Outstanding Professional of the Year; the Maine Children's Home for Little Wanderers, Community Service Project of the Year; Matthew Clark of Weeks & Hutchins, LLC and Sarah Sugden, of the Waterville Public Library, both recipients of the "Rising Star" Award; and Valley Distributors' Flint Collier, recipient of the Customer Service Stardom Award.

These nine recipients are among the best that Maine has to offer. Through their leadership and incredible commitment to their communities and the region, Maine is a better place to live and do business.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce and these individuals on their outstanding service and achievement.

### HONORING AMBASSADOR TERENCE A. TODMAN

#### HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2011*

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to an outstanding leader from my congressional district in the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Honorable Terence A. Todman, a Career Ambassador who served our country across the globe for almost 50 years.

On Saturday, March 12, 2011, my community will honor Career Ambassador Todman on the occasion of his 85th birthday. A native son, he began his distinguished career with service in the U.S. Army from 1945 to 1949, including a tour as a Commissioned Officer in Japan. He went on to diplomatic service as a Desk Officer for India-Ceylon-Nepal Affairs in 1952 and as a U.S. Government Intern on the United Nations Secretariat in 1954. From 1954 to 1957, he served as an Advisor to U.S. Delegations to the United Nations General Assembly and U.S. Representative on various Trusteeship Council committees. He ended the decade of the 1950s as a Political Officer in New Delhi from 1957 to 1959.

Career Ambassador Todman, who is fluent in many languages, served as the Arabic Language and Area Specialist in Beirut from 1960 to 1961. From 1961 to 1964, he served as the

Political Officer in Tunis, from 1965 to 1968 as the Deputy Chief of Mission and Charge d'Affaires in Togo and as the Country Director for East African Affairs from 1961 to 1969.

Mr. Speaker, as United States Ambassador, Terrence Todman served in Chad from 1969 to 1972, in Guinea from 1972 to 1975, in Costa Rica from 1957 to 1971, in Spain from 1978 to 1983, in Denmark from 1983 to 1989, and finally in Argentina from 1989 to 1993.

Although retired since 1993, Ambassador Todman has remained active serving on corporate and community boards from Argentina to the U.S. Virgin Islands. I recall that during one of Haiti's many crises and during the Aristide presidency, he was called back into service to share his expertise and experience as a special advisor to the Organization of American states. His recent focus has been on establishing joint ventures between U.S. and foreign companies with special emphasis on transportation and the environment. He is one of the Directors of the American Academy on Diplomacy, the Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training, the Constituency for Africa and the Atlantic Council of the United States. He is a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration and a member of its International Panel and many other organizations in the diplomatic field.

He serves on the board of Syracuse University, the Duke University Provost Advisory Council and the Advisory Board of the African Studies Program at Georgetown University.

Ambassador Todman has received the Presidential Distinguished Service Award, the National Public Service Award, the Department of State's Superior Service Honor Award and the Secretary of State's Distinguished Service Award. He has been decorated by the governments of Argentina, Denmark, Spain, Chad and the U.S. Virgin Islands. In 1997, he received the U.S. Department of State's Director General's Cup.

Mr. Speaker, as an ambassador extraordinaire who is credited with guiding our country through some difficult relationships and challenges, Ambassador Todman paved the way for other people of color to excel at and eventually lead the U.S. State Department. He is a trailblazer, and has opened many doors for young people who aspire to his level of excellence and dedication to country.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of the U.S. Virgin Islands, I wish Ambassador Todman a very happy 85th birthday and I extend my best wishes to his wife Doris and their 4 children, Terence, Patricia, Kathryn and Michael and his wider circle of family and friends. May God continue to bless him with good health and long life and on behalf of the Congress of the United States, thank him for his long, dedicated and distinguished service to our country.

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